

REMARKS

Claims 2, 4, 6, and 8 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 have been amended. With respect to including the “delivery date, customized product specifications, and accessories to be included with a purchase” in claims 1, 3, 5, and 7, support can be found in the specification at page 5, lines 23-25. With respect to storing the time of selection and storing new information or changes that have occurred since the time of initial selection of the product for potential purchase, support can be found in the application at page 6, lines 2-6. Claims 9-12 have been amended to require that the customized specifications be stored.

The invention provides a system, server, method and computer program for commodity selling which allow a user to select a candidate commodity for purchase, and to be provided with information related to that product which is updatable to include new information or changes thereto.

The commodity selling system of the claimed invention stores information on each purchase candidate commodity selected from among commodities appearing on a Web page. A list of purchase candidate commodities presented to a user may include information on each commodity at the time of selection as a purchase candidate commodity, such as: name; number; delivery date; customized specifications; and added options for each selected purchase candidate commodity. A list may also include the latest information on each selected commodity, such as: current inventory information on the purchase candidate commodity, information on changes in delivery date or price, information such as update, or information on other new produces associated with the commodity. (Specification, page 5, line 20 – page 6, line 6).

A user can select a commodity for purchase at some future date on the basis of such stored information, without any need for the user to run again through the purchase candidate commodity customization process on the seller’s web page to recreate the web page displaying the customized selection.

With reference to Figure 2, seller server 10 comprises information display control unit 12 and information storing unit 13. Information display control unit 12 and information storing unit 13 are connected to each other through an internal

bus. Information display control unit 12 displays information on user terminal 30 in response to a request from user terminal 30. Information storing unit 13 stores information on each purchase candidate commodity at the time when each purchase candidate commodity is selected from commodities on web page 15. Information display control unit 12 and information storing unit 13 in seller server 10 may be implemented by dedicated hardware, or may be formed of a memory and a CPU (Central Processing Unit) such that the functions thereof may be realized by loading a program for realizing the functions of the aforementioned respective units into the memory and executing the program. In the commodity selling system of the embodiment, a user can always make a final determination as to which commodity to purchase on the basis of new information by including the latest information on the purchase candidate commodities on the purchase candidate commodity list. In addition, seller server 10 can display the purchase candidate commodity list on user terminal 30 at any time when the user requests such display.

Claims 1-12 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0029171 to Senior. This rejection is traversed.

The Examiner has relied on paragraphs 00040-46 to Senior. It is noted that these paragraphs merely describe a system where price changes for a commodity may be monitored while a decision to purchase remains pending.

Claims 9-12 of the pending application are clearly distinguished from Senior in that they require that customized product specifications to be stored. This is not discussed or suggested by Senior. As noted above, this is important because it allows a user to select a commodity for purchase at some future date on the basis of the stored information without any need for the user to run through the purchase candidate commodity customization process on the seller's Web page to recreate the Web page displaying the customized selection.

Independent claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 are also differentiated from Senior. The claimed invention requires storing other information which includes new information or changes related to a purchase candidate commodity that have occurred since said time of selection of said purchase candidate commodity. When a product has been selected for potential purchase, current inventory

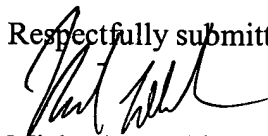
information and changes in the status of each item including delivery date, price, customized product specifications and accessories that are to be included with the purchase are displayed on the user terminal. Senior, by contrast, merely discloses current pricing of a product while a decision to purchase is being made. Furthermore, Senior, by providing only the current market price (paragraph 44), provides no means for recognizing the changes in price which might occur over time as inventory remains high or as inventory is consumed more rapidly than expected.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9-12 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



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